

Message Text

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42

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 EB-04 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-05

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FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1835

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, EAGR, NS

SUBJECT: GOS OFFICIAL TO CONSULT WITH WEYERHAUSER CORPORATION

1. MR. HEIN MARTIN YVEL, DIRECTOR OF SURINAM BUREAU FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ADVISOR TO THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT, PLANS TO VISIT U.S. BEGINNING NOVEMBER 8, FOR CONSULTATION WITH WEYERHAUSER CORPORATION, TACOMA, WASHINGTON. YVEL WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MR. LEEN VAN PELT, OFFICIAL OF THE STICHTING TOT BEVORDERING VAN INVESTERINGEN IN SURINAME, A QUASI-GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT PROMOTION FOUNDATION HEADQUARTERED AT THE HAGUE.

2. YVEL SAYS HE HAS BEEN COMMISSIONED BY GOS TO PIN DOWN WEYERHAUSER'S PLANS IN SURINAM. IT IS EIGHT YEARS SINCE WEYERHAUSER FIRST EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN MAJOR CHIP BOARD AND PULP PLANT AND FOURTEEN MONTHS SINCE LETTER OF INTENT TO ESTABLISH MUCH REDUCED JOINT VENTURE CHIP BOARD OPERATION WAS SIGNED, ACCORDING TO YVEL, AND STILL NO MOVEMENT IS IN SIGHT.

3. BOTH WEYERHAUSER AND GOS HAVE INVESTED HEAVILY IN FOREST RESEARCH AND PLANNING, APPARENTLY WITH POSITIVE TECHNICAL RESULTS, AND GOS IS ANXIOUS TO TRANSLATE ALL THIS PRELIMINARY

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WORK INTO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND JOBS. OTHER U.S.

(KIMBERLY-CLARK, PARSONS AND WHITTEMORE) AND THIRD-COUNTRY COMPANIES HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN TAKING UP WHERE WEYERHAUSER LEFT OFF.

4. COMMENT: RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, GOS OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT WEYERHAUSER IS WITHHOLDING INVESTMENT DECISION UNTIL POLITICO-ECONOMIC SITUATION IS CLARIFIED BY INDEPENDENCE, AND THEY ARE INCREASINGLY ANNOYED. UNLESS POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS ARE FORTHCOMING, GOS COULD MOVE TO TERMINATE ARRANGEMENT WITH WEYERHAUSER, AS IT IS IN PROCESS OF DOING IN SOMEWHAT SIMILAR CASE OF REYNOLDS METALS COMPANY.
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Message Attributes

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